

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Man-Woon NG et al.  
Title: TREATMENT OF OBESITY  
Prior Appl. No.: 09,245,712  
Prior Appl. Filing Date: February 8, 1999  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present Continuing Application, Applicant respectfully requests that the application be amended as follows:

**In the Drawings:**

Submitted herewith under separate cover are formal drawings containing Figures 1A-3.

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

After the Application Title, please insert:

--This is a Continuation Application of Application No. 09/245,712 filed February 8, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 08/340,389 filed November 15, 1994.--

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-17 without prejudice or disclaimer and add the following new claims:

18. **(NEW)** A method of treating obesity in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof an effective amount of a peptide or a homologue, analogue, mutant, variant or derivative thereof, wherein (A) the amino acid sequence of said peptide comprises a carboxyl-terminal sequence of a mammalian growth hormone, said carboxyl-terminal sequence comprising a bioactive lipid metabolic domain of the growth hormone effective to reduce body weight gain and adipose tissue mass in an obese mammal; and (B) said peptide is not the intact, full-length mammalian growth hormone; and wherein said homologue, analogue, mutant, variant or derivative of said peptide retains the ability to reduce body weight gain and adipose tissue mass in an obese mammal.

19. **(NEW)** The method according to claim 18, wherein said peptide does not have the diabetogenic property of the intact, full-length mammalian growth hormone.

20. **(NEW)** The method according to claim 18, wherein the mammal is a human.

21. **(NEW)** The method according to claim 18, wherein the amino acid sequence of said peptide comprises a carboxyl-terminal sequence of human growth hormone.

22. **(NEW)** The method according to claim 21, wherein the amino acid sequence of said peptide comprises amino acid residues 177-191 of human growth hormone (SEQ ID NO:1).

23. **(NEW)** The method according to claim 18, wherein the amino acid sequence of said peptide comprises a carboxyl-terminal sequence of non-human mammalian growth hormone selected from the group consisting of bovine, porcine, ovine, equine, feline and canine growth hormone.

24. **(NEW)** The method according to claim 23, wherein said carboxyl-terminal sequence corresponds to amino acid residues 177-191 of human growth hormone (SEQ ID NO:1).

25. (NEW) The method according to claim 18, wherein the peptide or homologue, analogue, mutant, variant or derivative thereof, is administered orally.

### REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 18-25 are now pending in this application.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 31 December 2001

By S. A. Bent

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